



SC Department of Employment and Workforce

Media Contact:

Adrienne Fairwell

(803) 737-2623

afairwell@dew.sc.gov

For Immediate Release

March 3, 2014

South Carolina Breaks All-Time Employment Record

Columbia, SC--According to the SC Department of Employment and Workforce (DEW), newly-released figures show that 2013 was a banner year as far as total employment. More South Carolinians were employed by the end of the year than ever before in the state's history.

South Carolina's employment level exceeded the two-million mark in November 2012 and remained above the two-million level throughout 2013. Prior to this, the last time employment exceeded two-million was in July of 2008.

The number of South Carolinians employed in December 2013 was 2,025,887 – more than 3,035 employed than the state's previous high of 2,022,852 in November 2013.

"Having more South Carolinians employed than at any other time in our state's history didn't happen by chance – it's the direct result of Team South Carolina's strategic effort to recruit and expand businesses in every corner of our state," said Governor Nikki Haley. "This is a real testament to our ever growing business community and world-class workforce and we couldn't be more excited to keep these jobs coming in and getting every person in our state back to work."

"This is amazing news for South Carolina because it shows that the state's economy continues to improve and as a result businesses are hiring," said Cheryl M. Stanton, DEW executive director. "We will continue to do our part to develop the state's workforce to meet our employers' needs and to get to a point where every South Carolinian who wants to work can."

Furthermore, comparing data from January of 2012 to December of 2013, the state has seen an increase in the employment level by approximately 48,620 people, reflecting on-going progress over the nearly two-year period.

The employment situation for January will be released March 17, and February's figures will be released March 28.

****About benchmarking:** The Bureau of Labor Statistics re-estimates labor force data annually to take advantage of the latest available information related to unemployment claims, nonfarm employment, population changes, and other data used in generating the estimates.*

###